

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 DRC-01 /240 W

----- 064751

R 071426Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 890

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENNA 10099

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJ: TRADE BILL

GENEVA FOR GATT

REF: (A) STATE 236848, (B) STATE 237173, (C) STATE 226909

1. DURING DISCUSSION WITH MINISTER OF TRADE STARIBACHER ON SEVERAL SUBJECTS, AMBASSADOR INFORMED MINISTER THAT PRESIDENT HAD ASKED SPEAKER OF HOUSE TO SCHEDULE HOUSE CONSIDERATION OF TRADE BILL BEFORE CHRISTMAS RECESS AND THAT BILL WOULD BE SCHEDULED FOR HOUSE ACTION DEC. 10, 11. AMBASSADOR ALSO MENTIONED RECOMMENDATION THAT HOUSE VOTE TO DROP TITLE IV (REF B).

2. STARIBACHER WAS PLEASED TO HEAR THAT ACTION WAS BEING TAKEN IN WASHINGTON TO MOVE FORWARD WITH BILL,

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COMMENTING THAT NOVEMBER GATT MEETINGS HAD NOT IN HIS
VIEW ACCOMPLISHED ANYTHING AND THAT NO MEANINGFUL
NEGOTIATIONS COULD TAKE PLACE UNTIL TRADE REFORM
BILL HAS BEEN ENACTED. AMBASSADOR RESPONSDED THAT USG
WILL BE ABLE TO START GENERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON TARIFF
MATTERS AS SOON AS TARIFF AUTHORITY IN TRADE BILL HAS
BEEN DEFINED AND THAT USG FEELS WE CAN AND SHOULD START
DISCUSSIONS ON GENERAL FORMULA OF TARIFF REDUCTIONS
IMMEDIATELY AFTER TRADE BILL DEFINED.

3. COMMENT: OTHER SENIOR MINTRADE OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD
US THAT THEY DO NOT BELIEVE SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS CAN BE
MADE IN TRADE TALKS UNTIL TRADE BILL HAS PASSED. EMBASSY
WILL CONTINUE INFORMAL TALKS WITH THESE OFFICIALS, DRAWING
ON POINTS CONTAINED REF C.HUMES

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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